

# Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission Report

October 2007

## CHAPTER 2.2.5.

### INFECTION WITH *MIKROCYTOS MACKINI*

#### Article 2.2.5.1.

For the purposes of the *Aquatic Code*, infection with *Mikrocytos mackini*<sup>1</sup> means *infection* only with *Mikrocytos mackini*.

Methods for conducting surveillance, diagnosis and confirmatory identification of infection with *Mikrocytos mackini* are provided in the *Aquatic Manual* (under study).

#### Article 2.2.5.2.

#### Scope

The recommendations in this Chapter apply to: European flat oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), Olympia oyster (*O. conchaphila*), Pacific oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*) and Eastern oyster (*C. virginica*). These recommendations also apply to any other *susceptible species* referred to in the *Aquatic Manual* when traded internationally.

#### Article 2.2.5.3.

#### Commodities

1. When authorising the importation or transit of the following *commodities*, the *Competent Authorities* should not require any *Mikrocytos mackini* related conditions, regardless of the *Mikrocytos mackini* status of the *exporting country, zone or compartment*:
  - a) For the species referred to in Article 2.2.5.2. intended being used for any purpose:
    - i) *commodities* treated in a manner that kills the host ~~(and thereby inactivates the disease agent)~~ e.g. canned or pasteurised products; chemically preserved products (e.g. smoked, salted, pickled, marinated, etc.);
    - ii) larvae;
    - iii) biological samples preserved for diagnostic applications in such a manner as to inactivate the *disease agent*.
  - b) All commodities from *Panope abrupt a*, including the live *aquatic animal*.

- c) The following *commodities* destined for human consumption from the species referred to in Article 2.2.5.2. which have been prepared and packaged for direct retail trade:
  - i) off the shell (chilled or frozen).

For the *commodities* referred to in point 1c), Members may wish to ~~should~~ consider introducing internal measures to prevent the *commodity* being used for any purpose other than for human consumption.

#### Article 2.2.5.4.

#### *Mikrocytos mackini* free country

A country may make a *self-declaration of freedom* from *Mikrocytos mackini* if it meets the conditions in points 1, 2, 3 or 4 below.

If a country shares a *zone* with one or more other countries, it can only make a *self-declaration of freedom* from *Mikrocytos mackini* if all the areas covered by the shared water are declared *Mikrocytos mackini* free zones (see Article 2.2.5.5.).

1. A country where none of the *susceptible species* referred to in Article 2.2.5.2. is present may make a *self-declaration of freedom* from *Mikrocytos mackini* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been continuously met in the country for at least the past 2 years.

OR

2. A country where any *susceptible species* referred to in Article 2.2.5.2. are present but there has ~~never~~ been no ~~any~~ observed occurrence of the *disease* for at least the past 10 years despite conditions – in all areas where the species are present – that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter 2.2.5. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may make a *self-declaration of freedom* from *Mikrocytos mackini* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been continuously met in the country for at least the past 2 years and infection with *Mikrocytos mackini* is not known to be established in wild populations.

OR

3. A country where the last known clinical occurrence was within the past 10 years, or where the *infection* status prior to *targeted surveillance* was unknown (e.g. because of the absence of conditions conducive to clinical expression as described in Chapter 2.2.5. of the *Aquatic Manual*), may make a *self-declaration of freedom* from *Mikrocytos mackini* when:
  - a) *basic biosecurity conditions* have been continuously met for at least the past 2 years; and

- b) *targeted surveillance*, as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and 2.2.5. of the *Aquatic Manual*, has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Mikrocytos mackini*.

OR

4. A country that has previously made a *self-declaration of freedom* from *Mikrocytos mackini* but in which the *disease* is subsequently detected may make a *self-declaration of freedom* from *Mikrocytos mackini* again when the following conditions have been met:
  - a) on detection of the *disease*, the affected area was declared an *infected zone* and a *buffer zone* was established; and
  - b) infected populations have been destroyed or removed from the *infected zone* by means that minimise the *risk* of further spread of the *disease*, and the appropriate *disinfection* procedures (see *Aquatic Manual*) have been completed; and
  - c) *targeted surveillance*, as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and 2.2.5. of the *Aquatic Manual*, has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Mikrocytos mackini*; and
  - d) previously existing *basic biosecurity conditions* have been reviewed and modified as necessary and have continuously been in place for at least the past 2 years.

In the meantime, part of the non-affected area may be declared a *free zone* provided that such part meets the conditions in point 3 of Article 2.2.5.5.

#### Article 2.2.5.5.

#### ***Mikrocytos mackini* free zone or free compartment**

A *zone* or *compartment* free from *Mikrocytos mackini* may be established within the *territory* of one or more countries of infected or unknown status for infection with *Mikrocytos mackini* and declared free by the *Competent Authority(ies)* of the country(ies) concerned if the *zone* or *compartment* meets the conditions referred to in points 1, 2, 3 or 4 below.

If a *zone* or *compartment* extends over more than one country, it can only be declared a *Mikrocytos mackini* free *zone* or *compartment* if the conditions outlined below apply to all areas of the *zone* or *compartment*.

1. In a country of unknown status for *Mikrocytos mackini*, a *zone* or *compartment* where none of the *susceptible species* referred to in Article 2.2.5.2. is present may be declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been continuously met in the *zone* or *compartment* for at least the past 2 years.

OR

2. In a country of unknown status for *Mikrocytos mackini*, a *zone* or *compartment* where any *susceptible species* referred to in Article 2.2.5.2. are present but there has never been any observed occurrence of the *disease* for at least the past 10 years despite conditions – in all areas where the species are present – that are conducive to its clinical expression, as described in Chapter 2.2.5. of the *Aquatic Manual*, may be declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini* when *basic biosecurity conditions* have been continuously met in the *zone* or *compartment* for at least the past 2 years and infection with *Mikrocytos mackini* is not known to be established in wild populations.

OR

3. A *zone* or *compartment* where the last known clinical occurrence was within the past 10 years, or where the *infection* status prior to *targeted surveillance* was unknown (e.g. because of the absence of conditions conducive to clinical expression as described in Chapter 2.2.5. of the *Aquatic Manual*), may be declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini* when:
  - a) *basic biosecurity conditions* have been continuously met for at least the past 2 years; and
  - b) *targeted surveillance*, as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and 2.2.5. of the *Aquatic Manual*, has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Mikrocytos mackini*.

OR

4. A *zone* previously declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini* but in which the *disease* is subsequently detected may be declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini* again when the following conditions have been met:
  - a) on detection of the *disease*, the affected area was declared an *infected zone* and a *buffer zone* was established; and
  - b) infected populations have been destroyed or removed from the *infected zone* by means that minimise the *risk* of further spread of the *disease*, and the appropriate *disinfection* procedures (see *Aquatic Manual*) have been completed; and
  - c) *targeted surveillance*, as described in Chapters 1.1.4. and 2.2.5. of the *Aquatic Manual*, has been in place for at least the past 2 years without detection of *Mikrocytos mackini*; and
  - d) previously existing *basic biosecurity conditions* have been reviewed and modified as necessary and have continuously been in place for at least the past 2 years.

### **Maintenance of free status**

A country, *zone* or *compartment* that is declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini* following the provisions of points 1 or 2 of Articles 2.2.5.4. or 2.2.5.5. (as relevant) may maintain its status as *Mikrocytos mackini* free provided that *basic biosecurity conditions* are continuously maintained.

A country, *zone* or *compartment* that is declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini* following the provisions of point 3 of Articles 2.2.5.4. or 2.2.5.5. (as relevant) may discontinue *targeted surveillance* and maintain its status as *Mikrocytos mackini* free provided that conditions that are conducive to clinical expression of infection with *Mikrocytos mackini*, as described in Chapter 2.2.5. of the *Aquatic Manual*, exist and *basic biosecurity conditions* are continuously maintained.

However, for declared free *zones* or *compartments* in infected countries and in all cases where conditions are not conducive to clinical expression of infection with *Mikrocytos mackini*, *targeted surveillance* needs to be continued at a level determined by the *Competent Authority* on the basis of the likelihood of *infection*.

#### Article 2.2.5.7.

### **Importation of live aquatic animals from a country, zone or compartment declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini***

When importing live *aquatic animals* of species referred to in Article 2.2.5.2. from a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require an *international aquatic animal health certificate* issued by the *Competent Authority* of the *exporting country* or a *certifying official* approved by the *importing country*.

This *certificate* must certify, on the basis of the procedures described in Articles 2.2.5.4. or 2.2.5.5. (as applicable), whether the place of production of the *commodity* is a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini*.

The *certificate* should be in accordance with the Model Certificate in Appendix 4.1.2.

This Article does not apply to *commodities* referred to in point 1 of Article 2.2.5.3.

#### Article 2.2.5.8.

### **Importation of live aquatic animals for aquaculture from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini***

1. When importing, for *aquaculture*, live *aquatic animals* of species referred to in Article 2.2.5.2. from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should assess the *risk* and, if justified, apply the following *risk* mitigation measures:
  - a) the direct delivery to and lifelong holding of the consignment in biosecure facilities for continuous isolation from the local environment; and
  - b) the treatment of all effluent and waste material in a manner that ensures inactivation of *Mikrocytos mackini*.
2. If the intention of the introduction is the establishment of a new stock, international standards, such as the Code of Practice on the Introductions and Transfers of Marine Organisms of the International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES), should be followed.
3. For the purposes of the *Aquatic Code*, the ICES Code may be summarised to the following main points:
  - a) identify stock of interest (cultured or wild) in its current location;
  - b) evaluate stock health/disease history;
  - c) take and test samples for *Mikrocytos mackini*, pests and general health/disease status;
  - d) import and quarantine in a secure facility a founder (F-0) population;
  - e) produce F-1 generation from the F-0 stock in *quarantine*;
  - f) culture F-1 stock and at critical times in its development (life cycle) sample and test for *Mikrocytos mackini* and perform general examinations for pests and general health/disease status;
  - g) if *Mikrocytos mackini* is not detected, pests are not present, and the general health/disease *status* of the stock is considered to meet the *basic biosecurity conditions* of the *importing country*, zone or compartment, the F-1 stock may be defined as free of infection with *Mikrocytos mackini* or specific pathogen free (SPF) for *Mikrocytos mackini*;
  - h) release SPF F-1 stock from *quarantine* for *aquaculture* or stocking purposes in the country, zone or compartment.

This Article does not apply to *commodities* referred to in point 1 of Article 2.2.5.3.

#### Article 2.2.5.9.

**Importation of live aquatic animals for processing for human consumption from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini***

When importing, for processing for human consumption, live *aquatic animals* of species referred to in Article 2.2.5.2. from a country, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should assess the *risk* and, if justified, require that:

1. the consignment be delivered directly to and held in *quarantine* facilities until processing and/or *consumption*; and
2. all effluent and waste material from the processing be treated in a manner that ensures *inactivation* of *Mikrocytos mackini*.

This Article does not apply to *commodities* referred to in point 1 of Article 2.2.5.3.

#### Article 2.2.5.10.

#### **Importation of aquatic animal products from a country, zone or compartment declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini***

When importing *aquatic animal products* of species referred to in Article 2.2.5.2. from a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should require that the consignment be accompanied by an *international aquatic animal health certificate* issued by the *Competent Authority* of the *exporting country* or a *certifying official* approved by the *importing country*.

This *certificate* must certify, on the basis of the procedures described in Articles 2.2.5.4. or 2.2.5.5. (as applicable), whether or not the place of production of the consignment is a country, *zone* or *compartment* declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini*.

The *certificate* should be in accordance with the Model Certificate in Appendix X.X.X. (under study).

This Article does not apply to *commodities* referred to in point 1 of Article 2.2.5.3.

#### Article 2.2.5.11.

#### **Importation of aquatic animal products from a country, zone or compartment not declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini***

When importing *aquatic animal products* of species referred to in Article 2.2.5.2. from a country, *zone* or *compartment* not declared free from *Mikrocytos mackini*, the *Competent Authority* of the *importing country* should assess the *risk* and apply appropriate *risk* mitigation measures.

This Article does not apply to *commodities* referred to in point 1 of Article 2.2.5.3.

1. This disease does not meet the listing criteria in Chapter 1.2.2. Nevertheless, reporting requirements for non listed diseases apply in regard to significant epidemiological events (see point 1e) of Article 1.2.1.3.).